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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/708,095	02/09/2004	Hui Lu	PS-110	2094
23933	7590	07/28/2006	EXAMINER	
STUART T AUVINEN 429 26TH AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062-5319			DILDINE JR, R STEPHEN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2133	

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/708,095	LU, HUI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	R. Stephen Dildine	2133	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/09/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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Claims 1-20 are allowed.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

The Transmittal letter filed 02/09/2004 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.4(2) as being unsigned. The format of the purported electronic signature ("Elec. Sign.") does not comply with the format set forth at 37 CFR 1.4(2).

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Paragraph [0049] is objected to under 37 CFR 1.71(a)(b) and (c) as not being a written description of applicant's invention.

Appropriate correction is required.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wootton (3,913,094) shows a system which indicates errors by comparison of two Gray codes, Tsukamoto (I) (2001/0043150) shows Gray codes with a checksum, Tsukamoto (II) (2002/0044077) shows "detecting whether the particular relationship between the lower order and upper order bits is set and generating an error bit signal when the particular relationship is not satisfied" (paragraph [0041]), Loewen (2004/0017303) shows that "The encoding section 101 includes an error detection section 102 for detecting whether or not values of upper order bits and lower order bits of the Gray code G have a particular relationship to detect an error code included in the Gray code G, and an error correction section 103 for correcting the error code detected by the error detection section 102" (paragraph[0136]) and the article by Mecklenburg et al. discusses error correction of gray coded data.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: none of the cited references teach or fairly suggest comparison of the MSB of a received Gray code with a stored previously received MSB of a Gray code as recited in applicant's independent claims 1 ("an upper comparator, coupled to the received register and to the stored register"), claim 9 ("comparing the received MSB to the stored MSB") and claim 17 ("upper comparator means, coupled to the received word means and to the stored register means, for comparing the upper received bits to the upper stored bits").

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to R. Stephen Dildine whose telephone number is (571) 272-3820. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 5:30 am to 2:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



R. Stephen Dildine

R. Stephen Dildine
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2133